

ARTICLES

to be inquired of in the

Diocese of S. Asaph,

In the third Visitation of

the Reuerend Father in God

JOHN Lord Bishop of

S. Asaph, 1637.



LONDON,
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To. Owen Bt of S. Asaph

Chwyt a dyngwch, ac i chwt, gan roddi beibio holl safon,
 Calfneb, gobath gwob; ac elw, neu o'n antoflondeb, yn ol y
 yrio o barioch yn ddysal y p'wngctan neu'r articles y rhai a roddwyd
 i chwt tan llawr ymestio holl a phob cyfryw ddyw o fewn eich plwy
 ar a gomittfodd neb yn gamwedd yn y rhai n, neu neb un o'r rhai n
 blwngctan, neu y lathol yz phys yn en tybleid yn doirfawr; neu yn en
 cablu megis rhai enog o'r cyfryw gamwedd: yn yr hyn chwt a ddy-
 fferfwrch eich ydwybodau yn ol y gwirionedd, heb b'fentio neb
 o falais yng withwyneb i'r gwirionedd, ac heb arbed neb trwy
 ddwlg-serch, ac felly cefnyd gwirionedd, gan yny lwythwch hon o'od
 dduw a ffaen eich gollwng yd' ddisrif; el t'faintu'nio gwirionedd ac i gy-
 fuddoio pethos. Fel y bydd i Dduw eich helpu, ac y f'fyr y llyfr hwn.

Dduw a gathw'r Bzenin.

**The forme of the Oath to bee ministred to the
 Church-wardens and Side-men.**

You shall swear, that all affection, favour, hatred, hope of reward
 and gaine, or feare of displeasure or malice set aside, you shall up-
 on due consideration of the Articles given you in charge, present all
 and every such person of, or within your Parish as hath committed any
 offence mentioned in these or any of these Articles, or which are ve-
 hemently suspected, and defamed of any such offence: wherein you shall
 discharge your consciences uprightly, and according to truth, neither
 of malice presenting any contrary to truth, nor of corrupt affection
 sparing to present any, and so conceale the truth, having in this action
 God before your eyes, with an earnest zeale to maintaine truth, and
 suppress vice. So help you God, and by the contents of this Book.

God save the King.

ARTICLES TO BE enquired of in the Dio- cesse of Saint Asaph.

Articles concerning publike prayer, and ad- ministration of the Sacraments.

FIRST, Whether hath any of your
Parish spoken or declared any thing in
the derogation or depraving of the
forme of Gods Worship in the Church
of England, and Administration of the
Sacraments, Rites, and Ceremonies
set for the prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer,
by the Kings Maestie authorized and confirmed?

Depraving of
the Booke of
Common
Prayer and
Ceremonies

2 Item, Whether hath any interrupted, hindered,
let, or disturbed the Minister to read divine Service,
and to administer the Sacraments in such manner
and forme as is mentioned in the said Book: or inter-
rupted him in his preaching?

Disturbing the
Minister in
the time of
prayer.

3 Item, Whether is the Sacrament of Baptisme
refused to be administered to any children borne in or
out of Wedlock, their birth being made knowne to the
Minister of the Parish, and offered unto him to be bap-
tized, or have any such children died unbaptized?

Children refu-
sed to be Bap-
tized, or dying
without Bap-
tisme.

4 Item, Whether have there been any children bap-
tized

Articles concerning the Church.

Private Baptisme.

tyzed in private houses by any Lay-person, or midwife, or Popish Priest, or by any other Minister, but upon urgent occasion, when the child was in danger of death.

Baptizing of Popish children.

5 Item, Whether have the children which have bene borne to any popish Recusants, or begotten by them in your Parish, bene publicly baptized in your parish Church by your Parson, Vicar or Curate, or by whom were they baptized, or where, to your knowledge?

Receiving of the Lords Supper thrice a yeere.

6 Item, Whether hath the blessed Sacrament of the Lords Supper bin duly and reverently administered every moneth, or thrice every yeere at least, whereof once at Easter, within your Parish Church, to every parishioner being of sixteen yeeres of age or upwards?

Kneeling at the Communion.

7 Item, Whether is the sayd holy Sacrament delivered unto or received by any of the Communicants within your Parish, that doe not devoutly and humbly kneele upon their knees?

Title 2.

Articles concerning the Church, the ornaments thereof, and the Churches possessions.

First, Have you the Bible in the largest volume, of the last edition, the Common prayer booke, and the Bookes of Homilies, in the Welsh tongue? Have you the booke of Canons and Constitutions, a Register booke in Parchment, and a Table of the degrees prohibited in marriage?

2 Item, Whether have you a Communion cup of gold or silver, with a covering for it, a faire standing pot of silver or pewter for the wine, a comely Surpells with large sleeves, a faire covering of like or other decent stuffe for the Communion table, a faire linnen cloth to be laid over it at the administration of the Communion?

3 Item, Whether have you in your said Church or Chappell,

Concerning the Church.

Chappell. a convenient Seat for your Minister to read divine service in: together with a comely Altarpiece set up in a convenient place, with a decent cloth of cushion for the same, with all other ornaments necessary for the celebration of divine service, and administration of the Sacraments: and whether have you a chest for almes, with three locks and keyes, and another Chest for keeping the Books and ornaments of the Church, and the Register booke: Whether have you a Register booke in parchment, for Christnings, Weddings, and Burials: and is the same kept in all points according to the Canons: And is the mothers Christian name therein registred as well as the fathers:

Things appertaining to Churches.

4 Item, Whether is your Church or chappell, with the chancell thereof and your Parsonage or Vicarage houses, your Parish Almes-house & Church in good reparations, and are they employed to godly and their right holy uses: if any be ruinated and wasted, in whom is the default: Is your Church, Chancel, and Chappell decently and comely kept, as well within as without: and be the seats well maintained, the Steeple and bells preserved, the windows well glazed, the floore kept paved, plaine and even, and all things in orderly and decent sort:

Reparation of Churches and Parsonage houses.

5 Item, Whether be your Church-yards well fenced & kept without abuse: if not, whose default is it: hath any person encroached upon the ground of the Church-yard: have any used a place consecrated to holy use, prophanely or wickedly: have any quarrelled, or stricken another in Church or Church-yard: or abused and profaned them with any unlawfull games, as bowles, Tennis, foot ball, hand ball, dancing and such like.

Fencing and keeping the Church-yard.

Profaning and annoying the Church-yard.

6 Item, Whether is your Church full, or vacant of an Incumbent: if vacant, who receiveth the fruits thereof, and who serveth the Cure, and by what authority: and whether is it a Parsonage, Vicarage, or Donative, or Appropriation:

Churches vacant.

7 Item,

Concerning the Church.

Concealing of
Church goods.

7 Item, What legacies have been given to the use and benefit of your Church: how have they bene bestowed: who receiveth them, and detaineth them without due employment: both any detaine or imbezell any of the Church goods, or any other gifts given to charitable uses.

Defacing of
seemely orna-
ments.

8 Item, Whether hath any in your Parish defaced, or caused to be defaced, any monuments, or ornaments in your Church:

Alienation of
tithes and pro-
fits of the
Church.

9 Item, Whether be not the profits, tithes, and other commodities Ecclesiasticall, impiously and wickedly, to the dishonour of Almighty God, and prejudices of the sacred Ministry, converted to the use & benefit of covetous Patrons, and by them received and detained, and how long have they been so used to your knowledge:

10 Item, Whether have there bene made any bargaine and sale, exchange, or other alienation of the Glebe lands, or tithes of your Parsonage or Vicarage, being presentative, without the consent of the Ordinary & Patron: and if you, specifye the said lands and tithes so sold, exchanged, or alienated, where it lay and lieth, and how it was and is abated, together with the value of the same, and who made the same sale, exchange, or alienation, and to whom was it made:

A Terrier of
Glebe Lands
and other pos-
sessions of the
Church.

11 Item, Whether have you the Terrier of all the Glebe Lands, Meadowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stocks, Implements, Tenements, & portion of tithes, (whether within your Parish or without) belonging unto your Parsonage or Vicarage, taken by the vote of honest men in your said Parish: And whether the said Terrier be laid up in the Bishops Registry, and in whose hands are any of them now: And if you have no Terrier already made in Parchment, you the Churchwardens & Eldermen, together with your Parson or Vicar, or in his absence, you are to make diligent inquiry and presentment of the premises, and make, subscribe, and signe the said Terrier, as aforesaid:

12 Item,

Concerning Ministers.

Item, In your Communion Table fairely railed about with Doppera worke, your Chancell and Church paved, all seats within the seven foot within your Chancell remoued, the seats in the Church made uniforme, and all other things performed according to an Order deliuered to the Churchwardens of your parish in the Octaposthical Visitation of the most reuerend Father in God William Lord Archb. Shop of Canterbury his Grace holden within the Dioces of S. Asaph Anno 1636.

Articles concerning Ministers and Preachers of Gods holy Word.

Item, Whether doth your Minister distinctly, reuerently say the Masse upon Sundayes and Holydaies, and other dayes appointed to be observed by the booke of common Prayer, at fit and usuall times? And doth your Minister duly observe the orders, Rites and Ceremonies prescribed in the said booke of common Prayer, as in the said booke is touching publicke prayers, and the Letany, as also in administering the Sacraments, solemnization of Matrimony, Visitation of the Scke, burying the dead, churching of women, and all other like necessary actions of the Church, in such manner and forme as in the said Booke of Common Prayer is

Observation
of the forme &
time of com-
mon prayer
and Sacra-
ments.

Item, Whether doth your Minister bid Holydaies and Fasting dayes, as is appointed? Doth he administ. the holy Communion every moneth, or thrice in the yeare, at least: Wherof once at Easter to every parishioner? Doth he recite the same himselfe on every day that he administ. it to others, and useth here the words of institution according to the booke without alteration at any time that the Bread and Wine is ministered? Doth he use and utter with the signe of the Crosse

Observation
of Rites.

Concerning Ministers.

Crosse in Baptisme: doth he doe baptize in any Ba-
son or other thing, but the usual font? Doth he ma-
ry without a Ring, or in times prohibited, or without
the banns thrice published, without a speciall licence
from the Archbishop, or Bishop of the Diocese, or his
Chancelor, first had and obtained?

Preachers
without Li-
cence.

3 Item, Whether is your minister a preacher li-
cenced or no? If no, whether doth he take upon him in
his owne Cure or else where, to expound any Scrip-
ture or matter of doctrine, & doth not keep himself only
to the reading of Homilies published by authority: if so,
then you are to present the same, the time & place where
he did it. And if he be licensed, doth he preach usually in
his owne Cure, according to the 44. Canon, or in some
other neighbour Church where no preacher is? Or
whether doth he, or his Curate upon any Sunday
when there is no Sermon, read Homilies, or some part
therof according as he ought to doe?

Preaching of
false doctrine
and new opi-
nions.

4 Item, Whether doth your minister publish in his
Sermons any doctrine which is new and strange, and
disagreeing from the Word of God; and from the Ar-
ticles of Christian Faith and Religion, agreed on and
published, And Doctrines which are

8 Item, Whether any visiting, visiting, or the fel-
ling, have been used in your Parson, where as Curate
his house, by themselves, or others dwelling therein,
and by whom?

Names of
strange Prea-
chers to be
taken.

9 Item, Whether are any strange ministers admit-
ted to preach in your Church, who doe not before the
Church-wardens subscribe their names in your booke
for that purpose, the day when he preached, and the
name of the Bishop of whom he had licence to preach,
and is any one admitted to preach, before he sheweth his
Licence?

Opposition of
Preachers in
their Sermons.

12 Item, Doth any preacher in your Pulpit parti-
cularly impugn and confute any doctrine delivered by
others his fellow preachers, before he hath acquainted
the

Concerning the Minister.

the Bishop of the Diocese therewith, and receibed order from him what to do in that case :

11 Item, Doth your Minister use to pray for the Kings Majestie, Clergy, Councell, &c. giving them their full titles, as in the Canon is required :

Praying for
his Majestie.

12 Item, Whether is your Minister Resident upon his Benefice, or absent: if absent, by whom is the Cure served, the fruits receibed: Doth your Minister or Curate serve any moze cures than one: if yea, then what other Cure doth he serve, and how far are they distant :

Non-residence
of the Minister.

13 Item, Whether doth he Catechize the youth of his Parish, upon Sundayer and holy-dayes, befoze evening Prayer for halfe an houre or moze, in the catechisme set forth in the Booke of common Prayer: and whether doe all the Parishioners diligently attend his catechizing: and who refuse to send their children and servants to be catechized by him :

14 Item, Doth your Minister carefully looke to the reliefe of the poore, and from time to time call upon his parishioners to give somewhat according to their ability, to godly and charitable uses, especially when they make their Wills :

Ministers to
call for reliefe
of the poore
and almshouses.

15 Item, whether is your Minister suspected or known to have obtained his Benefice or spirituall promotion by any Symoniacall compact, directly, or indirectly :

Symony.

16 Item, Whether doth your Minister demise the profits of his Benefice to any Lay-man above thre yeare and is not resident there, and keepeth no hospitality upon his Benefice, being of sufficient value :

Demising of
Benefices.

17 Item, Whether hath he, being learned & sufficient, conferred with the Popish Recusants of his parish, endeavouring to reclaim them from their errors, and presenting them being obstinate for their recusancy :

Conferring
with Recusants.

18 Item, Doth your Minister in the Rogation daies go in perambulation of the circuit of the Parish, saying euling the Prayers, Suffrages, and Thanksgiving to

Observing of
Rogation
week.

Concerning Mariage.

God appointed by Law, according to his duty, thanking God for his blessings, & praying for his grace & abount :

Preaching in
private houses.

19 Item, hath your Minister or any other Preacher, made any Sermon, administered the Sacraments, or churched women in any private houses, otherwile than is by Law allowed :

Curates not
licenced, and
Lay-men do-
ing the offices
of a Minister.

20 Item, What Curates or Preachers doe read Prayers or administer the Sacraments in your Parish, without lawfull Licence from the Bishop of the Diocese, under his hand and seale, according to the Canon : or doth any Lay man, not having holy Orders, presume to read publike Prayers in the Church :

Ministers for-
saking their
Calling.

21 Item, Whether is your Minister studious in the holy Scripture, & abstaineth from mechanicall trades, or labour not besitting his function, and from apparell unseemely for his calling, and from gaming, swearing, and drunkenness or such notorious crimes : Or is there any in your Parish, who having bene admitted into holy Orders either Deacon or Minister, doth relin- quish or forsake his calling, and liveth in the course of his life as a Lay man :

Articles concerning Mariage.

Mariage with-
in Leviticall
degree.

First, Whether be there any in your parish that have married within the degrees of Affinity, or Consanguinity, by the Law of God forbidden : if any, what be they :

Private mari-
age, and with-
out consent of
Parents.

2 Item, Whether have any bene married secretly in private houses, or without their Parents or Gubernours consent signified, being under the age of 21 years :

Maried per-
sons living a-
part.

3 Item, Whether doe any persons lawfully married, live asunder unlawfully : and in whom is the default :

Mariage with-
out banes or
licence.

4 Item, Whether any persons (Banes being not thire published in the Church) have been married with- out licence : who were present at such marriages, and what Minister married them :

5 Item,

Articles concerning Church-wardens.

5 Item, Whether any persons by licence or without, have bene married in your Parish Church, neither of them at that time dwelling in your Towne?

Persons married out of their parishes.

6 Item, What Popish Recusants or their children have bene married in your Parish, in what sort was that matrimony solemnized, when and by whom?

Recusants marriage.

7 Item, Is there any in your Parish that is hoiced, noted, or credibly reported, and accused to have two wives living, or two husbands?

Bigamy.

Articles concerning Church-wardens.

FIRST, Whether be the Church-wardens chosen by the Minister and Parishioners, according to the 89. Canon: and whether hath any taken him to be Church-warden, being not so chosen: or hath any continued above one year in his office, without a new choice?

Election of Church-wardens.

2 Item, Whether have any Church-wardens retained any of the Church goods, and not made a full account of what they have received and expended?

Church-wardens due account.

3 Item, Have they been, and are they diligent in their office, to see decency kept in the Church, and order in the time of Common prayer, and administration of the Sacraments; and that there be no disturbance, but soberness, and quietness in the Church: and doe the Church-wardens keep a book in your Parish, wherein the name of every strange preacher in your parish is set downe: and have the Church-wardens suffered any to preach, not shewing, or having no licence?

Church-wardens diligence in the Church.

Articles concerning the Parishioners.

FIRST, Whether doe any in your Parish profane the Sunday, by unlawfull games, or drinking, or tippling in the time of Common prayer or Sermon, & by working and doing the ordinary workes of their vocation and trades?

Profaning the Lords day.

Articles concerning the Parishioners.

Impugning
the Rites of
the Church.

2 Item, Is there any in your Parish that do impugn
or speake against the Rites and Ceremonies of the
Church of England, or the lawfull use of them and go-
vernment of this Church under his Maestie by Arch-
bishops, Bishops, and other Ecclesiasticall Officers?

Reverent be-
haviour at di-
vine service.

3 Item, Who in your parish do come to the Sermon
only, & not to divine Service; and who do not reverent-
ly behave themselves during the time of divine Ser-
vice, devoutly kneeling when the generall confession of
sins, the Letany, the ten Commandements, & all Pray-
ers and Collects are read, or who doe cover their heads
in the Church, during the whole time of divine service,
unlesse it be in case of necessity, or who doe give them-
selves to babling, talking, or walking, and are not at-
tentive to heare the Word read and preached?

Leaving their
own Churches
to go to others.

4 Item, Are there any of your parish, having a Prea-
cher to their Minister, that doe absent themselves from
his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other
Preachers: or doe any in your Parish communicate, or
baptize their childe in any other Parish?

Exception a-
gainst the Mi-
nister.

5 Item, Is there any in your Parish that refuse to
have their childe baptized, or themselves to receiue
the Communion of your Minister, taking exception a-
gainst him: or have any wives that refuse to come to
Church, according to the booke of Common prayer, to
give thanks to God for their safe deliverance, in a de-
cent habit, as hath been anciently accustomed?

Churching of
women.

Disgracing of
Ministers.

6 Item, Hath any in your Parish spoken slanderous
and reproachfull words against your Minister, to the
scandall of his vocation, or against their marriage or
wives, or against his neighbour, defaming them touch-
ing any crime of Ecclesiasticall cognizance?

Opening of
shops upon
the Sunday.

7 Item, Whether doe any in your Parish exercise
any trade, or labour, buy or sell, or keep open shops, or
set out any wares to be sold upon Sundayes and holy-
dayes, by themselves, their servants, or apprentices, or
have otherwise profaned the said dayes?

8 Item,

Concerning the Parishioners.

8 Item, Whether is the first of November kept holy, and thanksgiving made to God, according to the order set forth in that behalf?

Keeping holy the 1 of November.

9 Item, are there any in your Parish that be, or are commonly known or reputed to be blasphemers of Gods holy name: drunkards, adulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, concealors, or harbourers of fornicators or adulterers: have any been detected of such notorious crimes: and what penance have they done for the same?

Adultery, Fornication, Incest, &c.

10 Item, Whether there be any Inkeepers, Alehousekeepers, or Alehousekeepers within your Parish that admit unto, or suffer in their houses, any person at the time of Common Prayer, or Sermon, upon any Sabbath day or holy day, and who they be that haunt such Taverns, Inns, or tippling houses at prayer time?

11 Item, Whether any markets or selling of any meat, or other wares be suffered or used in your Churchyard, or there the same upon the Sabbath day: and whether any butchers, packmen or pedlers, or any mercers or other tradesmen within your parish, open their shops, or make any common or open sale of their stuffe upon Sabbath dayes or holy dayes, at service time especially.

12 Item, whether have any in your parish administered the goods of any person deceased, without lawfull authority, & before he or they have proved Will & Testament of the party deceased, or have obtained commission from the Ordinary, to dispose the said moveable goods: Or are there any Wills unproved, or goods not ministered?

Excommunicate persons.

13 Item, What persons be Excommunicate within your Parish, and for what cause to your knowledge: and whether doe any of them repaire to the Church in time of prayer, unabshed?

14 Item, What recusant Papists are there in your parish, & whether do they or any of them keep any Schoolmaster in their house, which cometh not to Church to heare divine service, and receive the holy communion: what is his name, and how long hath he taught?

Articles

Concerning Schoolemasters, &c.

Articles concerning Schoolemasters, Physitians, and Chirurgions, and Parish Clerks.

First, Is there any Schoole-master in your Parish, that teacheth publicly or privately, not licenced by the Ordinary, or Bishop of the Diocese: Doth he teach any Papist or Heretikes children that come not to Church: And doth he instruct all his Schollers to learn the short Catechisme by Law established, contained in the Booke of Common prayer: Is he a Graduate and sufficient to teach:

Physitians not
licenced.

2 Item, What Physitian or Chirurgeon is in your parish unlicenced and being not a Doctor of Physick in either of the Universities, doth practise Physick: And what ignorant persons have left their trade and taken upon them to practise Physick or Chirurgery, & who be they that so abuse the people: And do any in your parish take upon them to heale and cure men, or cattell, by charms, spells, witchcraft, or any other unlawfull wayes or meanes:

Parish clerks.

3 Item, Have you a fit parish clerk, aged twenty years at least, of honest life, able to read and write: are his and the Mertons wages paid without fraud: if not, then whose default is it: by whom is he chosen: Is he diligent in his office, & serviceable to the Minister: doth he meddle with any thing abroad his office: doth he keepe the Church clean, the doores locked: Is any thing lost or spoiled by his default: & doth he execute his office duly:

Articles concerning Ecclesiasticall offices.

Excessive fees.

First, whether be there any Ecclesiasticall Officers, that exercise Ecclesiasticall iurisdiction within this Diocese, that take & receive, or exact any extraordinary fees for any cause: whether have your Church wardens and Overseers concealed any abuses or offences punishable

Concerning Ecclesiasticall offices.

able in the Ecclesiasticall Court : and whether such offences being presented, are suppressed and unpunished?

2 Item, Whether is there not a table of fees in the Court of the Consistory, allowed and subscribed by the Judge and Register of the Court of Consistory, Anno Domin. 1597. and the same every Court day hung up in some publike place of the court and Registry?

Table of fees
in Courts.

3 Item, Doth any Ecclesiasticall Judge speed any act in any case privately of himselfe, and not in presence of some publike Notarie or actuarie?

Speeding of
acts without a
Notary.

4 Item, Have any Apparitors or Sumners, under pretence of authority, cited or summoned any person unlawfully, or hath taken any reward for the concealing of any offence or sin, or the avoiding of punishment of the offenders: and who be they that have done so? Do they take any fees not accustomed? Have they threatned any to prosecute them if they had no reward? and doe they summon any without a citation first had?

Abuses in Ap-
paritors and
Sumners.

If you know any other default or crime, of Ecclesiasticall cognisance, you are to present the same.

The Minister of every Parish may joyne in presentment with the Church-wardens and Side-men; and if they will not present, then the Ministers themselves (being the persons that should have the chiefe care for the suppressing of sin and impiety in their Parishes) may present the crimes aforesaid, and such things as shall be thought to require due Reformation, Can. 113.

FINIS.
